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Docket-222

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

POLICY & PLANNING
BRANCH ROOM 5202

16 MAR 1993

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Joe Barton
Member, House of Representatives
3509 Hulen, Suite 103
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Dear Congressman Barton:

This is in reply to your letter of February 18, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Gene Perkins, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituent is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituent's concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Your constituent's letter will be included in the record of the proceeding. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994.

Sincerely,

Congressional

DUE 3-10-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
03/02/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300941	03/02/93	02/18/93	03/22/93	

TITLE

MEMBERS NAME

REPLY FOR SIG OF

PRB
92-235
941

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 18, 1993

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim
Director, Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M street, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Solheim:

Enclosed is information from Gene Perkins concerning the Federal Communications Commission.

I would appreciate any assistance and/or information you could provide in regard to this matter. Please direct correspondence pertaining to this inquiry to my Fort Worth district office, 3509 Hulen, Suite 103, Fort Worth, Texas 76107.

Thank you for your interest and consideration.

Sincerely,

Gene R 1

2454
January 30, 1993

The Honorable Joe Barton
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Barton:

I am actively involved in the design, construction, and operation of radio-controlled model aircraft. I own several hundred dollars worth of radio control equipment and have spent hundreds of hours designing and constructing the aircraft. In addition to the recreational aspects of this activity, it contributes to the base of knowledge about aerodynamics and about remote control of air vehicles as used, more and more, by our military services.

I am very concerned about proposed rules changes that are being considered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). These changes were published as NPRM-PR Docket 92-235. If these changes are put into effect it will be the most massive and radical change in radio frequency allocation in 60 years.

Our current radio-control frequencies are in the 72 to 76 megahertz band and we are limited to a maximum transmitter output of one watt. The proposed changes would allocate additional channels (narrow bands of frequency spectrum) interspersed between the channels which we use. In addition, the new channels would be permitted to transmit five watts of power. This would make our channels unusable for radio-control of flying aircraft since the new channels would 'flood' the adjacent channels.

You must understand that these model aircraft have wing spans up to ten feet, weigh as much as forty pounds, and fly at speeds up to 200 miles per hour. At many flying meets there are usually dozens and sometimes hundreds of spectators.

When we fly our model airplanes we go to great lengths to assure the safety of operators and spectators by controlling the use of the channels so that there are no frequency conflicts between the several flyers. If the FCC implements the proposed changes it will reduce the number of usable channels and diminish the margin of safety since we will have no control over the new channels. In fact, interference could be caused by a passing vehicle which would be transmitting up to five times the power of our transmitters -- causing the loss of control of the aircraft.

Please help me to persuade the FCC that it would not be wise to jeopardize an activity that provides so much enjoyment to adults and provides so much education in aerodynamics and electronics to our young people.

Sincerely,

Gene E. Perkins

Gene E. Perkins
5224 Winifred Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76133
817-292-5718